## Warren County Veterans Service Officer's Report for October 2011

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## **New York State Veteran's Benefits**

The state of New York provides several veteran benefits listed below each month we will preview a particular area:

- **Housing Benefits** 
  - State Veterans Home A 242 bed veterans home is operated by the State Department of Health at Oxford, Chenango County, for veterans, spouses and certain parents. The Department of Health also operates a 250-bed facility at St. Albans, Queens, a 126-bed facility adjacent to the Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Batavia, Genesee County and a 250-bed facility in Montrose, Westchester County. A 350-bed Veterans Home is located on the campus of the State University of New York at Stony Brook, Long Island, and is operated by the university's Health Sciences Center. Health related care and skilled nursing services are available at all facilities. Admission preference is based on severity of illness or disability and need for care.
  - New York State Homes For Veterans Program Homes for Veterans Program offers fixed-rate mortgages with interest rates charged on SONYMA mortgages with closing cost assistance.

## **Upcoming topics:**

- Financial Assistance Benefits
- **Employment Benefits**
- **Education Benefits**
- Other State Veteran Benefits

The Treasury Department has mandated (31 CFR Part 208) that all Federal benefits be released via electronic funds transfer or Direct Express ® Debit MasterCard® issued by Comerica Bank.

You have not provided us with your banking information to allow your federal benefits to be sent directly to your bank. Although you will continue to receive your VA benefit in the form of a paper check, this will only occur for an interim period. You need to contact the Treasury Department to discuss how to receive future payments at 1-800-333-1795.

- If you choose to continue to receive paper checks you will need to request a waiver from the Treasury Department by calling 1-888-224-2950.
- If you choose to have your federal benefits electronically transferred to your designated financial

institution (e.g. bank) please call VA at 1-800-827-1000 with your banking information.

• If you choose to have your federal benefits issued through Direct Express®, which is a MasterCard® issued by Comerica Bank, please call 1-800-333-1795

Sign up with your Town's Assessor for the Veterans Tax Exemption by March 1st, 2012

15% - Wartime/non-combat (to include Cold War Vets between 9/2/1945-12/26/1991) An additional 10% - Combat Vets

Another additional % = 1/2 of your VA disability (maximum 50%)